

PATENT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 46884-5464

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

)
) Confirmation No.: 8732
) Group Art Unit: 2828
) Examiner: Unassigned

SOLID-STATE LASER APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

For:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper.

A copy of a Supplementary European Search Report dated September 13, 2006 that issued in a related patent application and having documents cited therein is attached for the Examiner's consideration.

The relevance of the attached foreign language documents can be understood from the attached English-language abstract or the Supplementary European Search Report. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Also attached is an English-language translation of an International Preliminary Examination Report ("IPER"), including PCT/IB/373 and English translation of PCT/ISA/237, dated June 29, 2006 that issued in a related PCT/JP2004/012073 application. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the IPER as it relates to the above-identified application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this Application, including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required and including any required extension of time fees, *or* credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.



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50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR

EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP

Dated: February 13, 2007

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Attorney Docket No.: Serial No.: FEB 1 8 200 10/573,114 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION 46884-5464 (Use several sheets if necessary) Applicants: Page 1 of 1 Toshiyuki KAWASHIMA et al. PTO Form 1449 Filing Date: Group Art Unit: March 23, 2006 2828 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Sub *Examiner Document Number Date Name Class Class Filing Date Initial FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Sub **Translation** Number Date Country Class Class YES NO Feb. 17, 1999 EP 0 897 206 A Europe 08-330648 Dec. 13, 1996 Japan Abstract 03-022579 Jan. 30, 1991 Japan Abstract OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Date Considered Examiner Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if

not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.